

During the late war the Library suffered greatly from the depredations of the soldiers of both armies. Books were taken by them and never returned; and in this way many sets were broken and many valuable works lost. This defect I have endeavored to remedy as far as the limited means appropriated would allow, and I think I am justified in saying that the Library is in a better condition to-day than it has been since the civil war. If there was room to place properly the many valuable books now hidden away in closets and scattered through the various offices in the building, we would have a Library that would be a credit to the State and the pride of every true North Carolinian.

With the present number of volumes on hand and the annual increase, it is evident that something must be done to remedy the evil, and at no distant day.

SHERWOOD HAYWOOD,

*State Librarian.*